



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

of the petiole; "veins" for the divisions (if any) of the petiole; "veinlets" for the primary branches sent off from the midvein or veins; and "veinulets" for the secondary branches sent off from the veinlets.

Mr. Bicknell stated that the total number of plants observed by him in flower this year up to date was thirty-five.

Prof. Wood reported that he had received from Dr. E. C. Howe a specimen of *Carex Sullivantii*, Boot, collected near the Croton aqueduct at Yonkers.

M. W. Van Denburg, M. D., of New York City, was elected an active member, and two new names were proposed for membership.

§ 33. **Coe F. Austin.**—This well-known botanist died on the 18th of March, 1880, at his home, Closter, New Jersey, where he was born on the 20th of June 1831. His health had been failing for a year, but the close was rather sudden.

After completing his education at Rankin's Pinkerton Academy, Austin, who was endowed with the true mind of a naturalist, devoted his time to the study of Chemistry and Botany. Becoming soon most interested in Botany, he accepted the position of Curator of the herbarium of Columbia College, but abandoned it to give his whole time to the study of the Mosses and Hepaticae, and to the search for and collection of these plants.

Without a sufficient supply of books, but with an incomparable perseverance, he soon became an adept in this department of botanical science, and, helped by Sullivant and other American bryologists, he was able to prepare the publication of his first work on Mosses.

As a collector, Austin pursued his explorations with indomitable energy and remarkable success, enriching the American flora with a large number of species, either new or as yet undiscovered in this country. The first work of his, the *Musci Appalachiani*, is a collection of 450 specimens, raised to 550 by a supplement in 1878, representing above four hundred species, the rest being varieties not less valuable to students.*

Mr. Austin contributed in 1869, an article to the Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, containing 47 species of Hepaticae. After which time appeared his *Hepaticae Boreali-Americanae* which comprised 150 specimens, 30 of which were varieties, and 15 species previously published.

Work of this kind can be performed only by true devotion to science. It demands a prodigious amount of research in the field for procuring the specimens, and an arduous labor to separate the species, (for mosses mostly grow mixed together) and then for the determination of each specimen, which has generally to be done by microscopical examination. It is therefore easy to understand

* This work is the more valuable since nothing else of that kind can now be obtained for American Bryology, as no copies of the *Musci Alleghanienses* by Sullivant, nor of the *Musci Exsiccati*, by Sulliv. & Lesqr., are left for sale. The few copies of the *Musci Appalachiani* which, if I am well-informed, have been left by Austin will soon be disposed of. The same remarks are applicable to his other important work—the *Hepaticae Boreali-Americanae*.

how much time has to be spent in the preparation of a single set, and what small material advantage can be derived from such undertakings.

Austin's name is well-known by the readers of the *BULLETIN*, to which he has furnished the descriptions of 110 species of Mosses and Hepaticae. Sixty-four others have been published in the *Botanical Gazette*.

As an anatomist and judge of the character of the Mosses, Austin had a quick perception, but was often disposed to unreliable conclusions, formed too confidently on incomplete materials. He has, therefore, sometimes recalled his first determinations. But who is the bryologist who has done otherwise? A large number of his species, some of them the finest and rarest in the North American Bryology, stand as wonders of his clear discrimination, and he leaves a name dear to American botanists and well-known to European bryologists.

The loss of Austin is especially to be regretted for Hepaticology, of which he was the only representative in this country. He had studied the Hepaticae as his specialty, with the purpose of publishing a Synopsis, which time only prevented him bringing to completion.

L.

[Mr. Austin left sets of his Musci, and Hepaticae, all labelled and accompanied by a catalogue and index. His private collection contains very numerous specimens of each species, with his notes upon their various forms in different localities. It would be an invaluable aid in making critical researches in this field of enquiry, and should be acquired by some scientific institution. Those who make a study of these subjects ought to be prompt in procuring sets, both for their own sakes and for the sake of the family of this devoted scientific worker. The prices are given in the advertising page of this sheet.]

§ 34. **The Genus *Pinus*.**—*Revision of the Genus *Pinus* and description of *Pinus Elliottii*, by Dr. George Engelmann*, from the Transactions of the Academy of Science of St. Louis, February, 1880, with three beautiful plates illustrating *P. Elliottii*, drawn on stone by P. Roetter.

With indomitable courage, patience and skill, Dr. Engelmann attacks one after another the Doubting Castles of Botany and generally succeeds, if not in utterly demolishing them, at least in opening to the light their most gloomy dungeons. Mr. Bebb will probably claim that *Salix* offers a more stubborn and more extensive obstacle than *Pinus*, but the latter was far enough from being reduced, before Dr. Engelmann sat down before it. It is claimed that the present arrangement is as natural a one as any that can be devised, and that by it, to some extent, even geographical alliances are best preserved.

Dr. Engelmann finds, "with Endlicher, the most valuable character in the fruit scale," or, to speak more correctly, "that the fruit scale in this genus corresponds with a series of other characters which constitute two very natural sections of the genus" *Strobos* and *Pinaster*. The more or less thickened exposed part of this scale, called the apophysis, is rather depressed and terminates in a blunt point in *Strobos*; in *Pinaster*, it bears its point on the usually more thickened back, the *umbo*, mostly armed with a prickle or spur, sometimes early deciduous.